

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A connectorized silicon bench and ferrule that aids in the passive alignment of optical fibers to optical components on the bench. The apparatus includes a bench having an optical component, a groove formed in the bench, the groove configured to accommodate an optical fiber; and a ferrule, including a recess region to accommodate the optic fiber when the ferrule is mounted onto the bench. The groove and the ferrule cooperate to passively align the optical fiber and the optical component on the bench. A connector sleeve, which accommodates the silicon bench and ferrule, includes a receptacle that is configured to receive a plug-in connector which optically couples the optical fiber to an optical network or link.